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ad 13 The bushing of Claims 10 and 11 wherein at least one of said streamlined elements is preloaded by compression before insertion between said inner and outer sleeves.

Add Claim 14:

ad 14 The bushing of Claim 12 wherein said means comprise preload-application shoes disposed between said outer sleeve and said streamlined rubber elements and contacting said streamlined rubber elements, and compression load actuators movably connected with said outer sleeve and contacting said preload application shoes.

(NW) In Claim 2, line 1, replace "1" with --10-- ; in line 2 add --,-- after "compression".

In Claim 3, line 1, replace "1" with --10-- ; in line 4 add --,-- after "elements".

In Claim 4, line 2 add --,-- after "sleeve".

In Claim 5, line 2, add --,-- after "elements".

In Claim 6, line 2, add --,-- after "matrix".

In Claim 7, line 1, replace "2" with -- 13 --; line 3, add --,-- after "insertion".

In Claim 9, line 1, replace "8" with -- 14 --; line 3, add --,-- after "actuator".

#### REMARKS

1. All remaining Claims are corrected by the above amendments, as required.
2. While the Applicant tried to telephone the Examiner (and the Supervisor) to clarify the legal issues addressed in the Office Communication of 12/04/02, the attempt was not successful due to the Examiner return date to the Office (1/06/03) being after the due date for the response and the Supervisor being also not available.

Per the Office Communication request, the Applicant elects the Species D as the primary species of the invention. However, it is believed that the added independent Claim 10 is generic, encompassing all the species of the subject invention as disclosed in the Application.

Reconsideration and allowance are accordingly respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted



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#### Certificate of Transmission per MPEP 512

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 703.305.7687) on January 2, 2003.



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